The Terrible Cost of War.

By Benjamin F. Trueblood, LL. D.

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Chapter 1.—The Loss of Life.

IT has been estimated that the aggregate loss of life, in all the wars which have occurred since the beginning of authentic history, has been not less than 15,000,000,000.

This is probably far under the actual losses, as in the earlier centuries wars were incessant and even more pitiless and murderous than those of modern times, when many of the horrors attendant upon battles and campaigns have been suppressed.

This vast number of 15,000,000,000 slain in war is equal probably to all the people who have inhabited the globe for the last six hundred years.

The usual estimate of the number of men lost in war in the nineteenth century, including those who died of wounds and disease, places it at 14,000,000. Of this number the Napoleonic campaigns are responsible for about six millions.

The war of 1812 to 1814 between the United States and Great Britain cost the two countries not less than 50,000 men in killed and wounded, and probably more.

The war between the United States and Mexico waged from 1846 to 1848 resulted in the loss of at least 50,000 men.

The Crimean war of 1854 to 1856, in which France, England, Piedmont, Turkey, and Russia took part, cost the five nations at least 785,000 men, nearly 600,000 of whom (Russians more particularly) died from sickness and suffering occasioned by the long, hard marches and exposure in other ways.

The losses in the American Civil war, 1861 to 1865, have been variously estimated, for the North and the South to- ther, at from 800,000 to 1,000,000. The too large to

and China in 1894 and 1895 no accurate statistics have ever been attainable. But in the various battles on land, in which the Japanese cannon and rifles did cruel execution, and in the great naval battle off the mouth of the Yalu River, in which the Chinese navy was practically destroyed, the total number of killed and wounded could not have been much less than 15,000.

The Boer war of 1899 to 1901 between Great Britain and the two South African Republics cost England alone 100,000 men in killed and wounded. The Boer losses were much less, but probably totaled 25,000 or 30,000, and have by some been placed, including the women and children done to death in the reconcentrado camps, as high as 40,000.

In the Spanish-American war in 1898, in which the only serious fighting was in the brief campaign at Santiago, the sea battle off the mouth of the harbor, and that of Manila Bay, in which the Spanish vessels were destroyed by the United States fleets, the loss of life was not large, and probably amounted on both sides, including the deaths of the United States soldiers from disease, to not more than 6,000 men. The Philippine aftermath of this war was much more destructive. It cost the lives of from five to ten thousand United States soldiers, many of whom died from the effects of the climate, and of the Filipinos it has been estimated that from half a million to a million perished in the "battles," the "punitive expeditions," the reconcentrado camps, the village burnings and butcheries, etc.

The great losses of Russia and Japan in the recent Manchurian war have now become pretty well known. They are frightful. The returns made by the Japanese War Office show 218,000 (roundly speaking) killed, wounded, missing, and injured by accident, and 221,000 who died, or were invalided home by disease, making a total of 439,000 casualties. Of these, 137,000 invalided men recovered. If we allow 52,000 more of the wounded and invalided men to have finally recovered, we have a residuum of 250,000 Japanese killed or permanently disabled by the war. The Russian figures are given as 151,000 killed, wounded, and missing, exclusive of the Port Arthur casualties, which were so heavy. The total Russian losses, therefore, including those at Port Arthur and those who died from disease and exposure, will certainly surpass the Japanese, and may safely be put at 300,000, making the joint sacrifice of life of the two nations 550,000 men.

(To be continued.)

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Queer Burials.

Sir James Colquhoun, whose recently proved will contains a direction that his body should be dressed for burial in evening costume, was one of many men who have made unconventional arrangements for their burial.

One of the most singular of these testamentary directions was that of John Underwood, of Whittlesea, whose body, fully dressed, was placed in a green coffin. Under his head was placed a copy of Horace, and his feet rested on Bentley's "Milton." Bentley's "Horace" was placed beneath his back and on his right and left sides were a thir "Horace" and a Greek Testament.

Mrs. Margaret Cousins, of Cuxton, in Ken made her last journey attired in